

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
LAS VEGAS ATCT/TRACON  
699 Wright Brothers Lane  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119**

**ISSUED: May 4, 2006**

**EFFECTIVE: May 8, 2006**

**LAS VEGAS AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER LETTER TO AIRMEN NO. 06-01**

**SUBJECT: McCarran International Airport Opposite Direction Departure Procedures**

**CANCELLATION: May 8, 2008**

Constantly increasing aircraft load factors and extremely high summer temperatures, have necessitated an increase in the utilization of runways and the airspace surrounding McCarran International Airport. Standardizing customer requests for opposite direction departures will assist ATC in maintaining system efficiency and improve the customer's on-time performance. We encourage airline operations and dispatch personnel to utilize the following procedures.

Procedures.

a. When an aircraft is unable to accept runway 25R or 19L/R for departure due to performance limitations, calculate takeoff performance data for the following runways and in the following order of preference:

1. 1L/R.
2. 07L at taxiway D.
3. 07L (full length).


**NOTE:** When McCarran International Airport is on a runway 19/25 operation, aircraft departing runway 01L/R will normally experience the least departure delay. Aircraft requiring runway 07L (full length) will incur the most significant delay since this impacts arriving aircraft to runways 19L/R and 25L/R.

a. As soon as the pilot has determined they require an opposite direction runway for departure, notify Clearance Delivery that; runway 01L/R, 07L at taxiway D or 07L (full length) must be used due to an operational necessity.

b. Aircrews shall contact Ground Control five-minutes prior to pushback. Ground Control will coordinate the opposite direction departure request with Traffic Management and advise the aircrew of an expected departure time.

Aircrews requesting opposite direction departures should expect delays of up to 60 minutes during peak demand periods. Opposite direction departures requires additional coordination, planning and patience from all involved. Your cooperation and understanding of these procedures is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions concerning this procedure, please contact the Las Vegas Tower Operations Manager at 702-262-5910.

  
Del Meadows  
HUB Air Traffic Manager  
Las Vegas Air Traffic Control Facilities